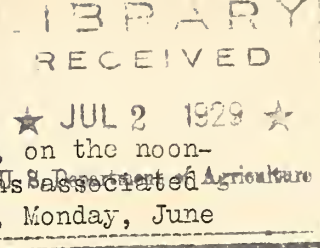


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MY 4-H CLUB WORK.



A radio talk by Velma Milstead, Logan County, Oklahoma, on the noon-hour network program, through Station WRC and 17 other stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company at 1:38 p.m., E. S. T., Monday, June 24, 1929.

Boys and Girls of the 4-H Clubs, Fathers and Mothers, and Friends:

We're having a wonderful time here in Washington. Every day is full of interesting events. Last week we went through some of the historical buildings. The Congressional Library thrilled me more than any other building I've ever seen. Saturday afternoon we went down to Mount Vernon. I haven't been up in the Washington Monument yet, but I'm going. The Monument is right across the street, you might say, from our club camp. Mrs. Hoover visited the camp Friday. Thursday we had our pictures taken on the White House grounds, with President Hoover.

But I'm not supposed to be telling you what we're doing in Washington. I was brought up here to tell you about my 4-H club work in Logan county, Oklahoma. Little did I realize, what important events were in store for me, when, as a youngster of ten, I became one of Oklahoma's 30,000 club members.

My father died when I was six, leaving my mother with three small children. I was the oldest.

With the insurance money, mother bought out little home. Later she was appointed Post Mistress, and I became housekeeper.

The very same year that I joined the 4-H Club my mother was taken ill, and for two years was unable to work. We had no money for hired help, so I nursed mother, kept my brothers in school, attended school enough to make my grade, did the general housework and completed my 4-H Home Project.

Mother, slowly improving, accepted the position as Station Agent at a small salary. A year later I graduated from the 8th grade. Trouble was ahead. More education would necessitate my leaving home, but Club Work had helped us and inspired me. I secured a place to work for my board and room. The Club training of my head, heart, hands and health certainly helped me.

During the summer I worked, earning a little money to help mother who was sacrificing so much to give me an education. In the fall my grandfather died and it became necessary for me to return home. During the winter I baked and sold 367 loaves of bread, and 783 rolls, using 4-H Club recipes. This netted me \$20.00 paying for all the bread used by our family of four. I kept up my studies, did all the sewing, and completed my fourth year in 4-H Home Demonstration Work.

All these years I was active in the local and county club affairs; we were a very young, frightened and inexperienced club when we first entered the Model Club Contest and placed only 4th.

As a 13 year old girl, I was selected to represent our Club at Stillwater during Farmers' Week. Here I received an inspiration to help make our Club one of the best. At the request of the agents I became responsible

for the coaching of the Club. I insisted that every club member complete his project and help with the Club Program. At the County Contest we placed second as a Club and had the best record of completed work. Our Club held a community egg show, several socials and special meetings which created greater interest in higher standards of living and community life.

The 4-H Club year of 1928 has been my crowning year. Six years of Club Work won me the county leadership trophy, the Montgomery Ward Education trip to Chicago, and made it possible for me to be a member of the High School graduating class.

I have always taken an active part in local, county, and State contests, in judging, team demonstration, health and style revue contests. Each year I have completed and reported the required work in the garden, canning, food home improvement, bee and poultry clubs, with a total valuation of \$1934.48, also winning \$223.50 in prizes and trips. I have made 64 club exhibits, winning 60 placings.

Three weeks ago I received a \$36.00 check for prizes and labor during our County Fair. It will help build a porch and paint the house. This is the first repairing we have been able to do since mother bought our home 12 years ago. From the scraps of lumber we had a porch swing built.

I did not need this money, because my 4-H Club record and interested club friends have secured for me a paying position. My money is being treasured to enter college. For my mother's sake, if no other, I will make good. Club Work has meant to me, a better home, good health, an education, better clothes, training in leadership, more money, and the joy of service.

Before I leave, I'd like to send greetings to all the Oklahoma boys and girls, and to the members of our local club in Meridian. And if it's not out of place, I'll send a very special greeting to Mother.